

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 842

By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to honor Mr. James Baldwin on his graduation from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those persons, who through their natural talents and unflagging dedication to excellence, have distinguished themselves as Tennesseans of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Mr. James Edgar Baldwin, Sr. is one such estimable person who, at the age of 69, has graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in History at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, James was born in Chattanooga to the late George and Susie Baldwin; he and his 13 siblings were taught the value of education by their parents at an early age, with the eight surviving children all attending college; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baldwin is a retired forty-two year employee of the Dupont Company of Chattanooga, where he was the first African American to be employed in the Maintenance Division and was ultimately promoted to the highest rank in the Division; and

WHEREAS, an extremely dedicated man who began his quest for a degree at UTC in 1972, James Baldwin found time to take classes while working full-time and raising a family; and

WHEREAS, James has been described by his faculty adviser, Dr. James Ward, as being "very driven". "He wanted a degree. He wanted it for himself, not for professional reasons". "He has been a joy to teach and advise"; and

WHEREAS, he is district deputy grand master of the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge of Tennessee, and serves with probity as a member of the Board of Directors for the Progressive Teachers' Federal Credit Union and the Board of Contact, Inc., of Chattanooga; he is the immediate Past President of the Friendship Haven Board of Directors, President of the 1948 Class of Howard High School, and Treasurer-Appointee of the Chattanooga Exchange Club; and

WHEREAS, he evinces his devout religious faith as a member of the Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church, and assists in providing mission work at the St. Mary C.M.E. Church of Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, James's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his continued success, as he is a perfect role model for all Tennesseans to emulate; and

WHEREAS, his future plans are to continue to serve in the areas in which he is currently engaged and to work as a substitute teacher in math or history at Howard High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baldwin has enjoyed the love and unflagging support of his wife, the late Effie Baldwin, and their three children, Marilyn, who is deceased, James, Jr., and Iris Baldwin Hamilton; and

WHEREAS, his noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his family, his school, and the entire Chattanooga community; and

WHEREAS, James' dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Mr. James Edgar Baldwin, Sr., on his graduation from the

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.